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S/1997/318
16 April 1997
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 16 APRIL 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 15 April 1997 from Mr. Mohammed Said Al-Sahaf, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, concerning the continuing violations of Iraq's territory and airspace being committed by Turkish armed forces.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

97-10401 (E) 180497

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Annex

Letter dated 15 April 1997 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq addressed to the Secretary-General

I refer to my letter of 25 February 1997 concerning the continuing violations of the territory and airspace of the Republic of Iraq being committed by Turkish armed forces (S/1997/158) and should like to inform you that, on a variety of pretexts, such forces are still engaging in military operations inside Iraq's territory and in its airspace. The particulars are set forth hereunder.

1. On 11 January 1997 Turkish village guards penetrated inside Iraqi territory in the Ufkuzi area to the north-east of Zakho district with a view to gathering intelligence.

2. On 17 January 1997 two Turkish fighter aircraft bombarded Karah slope situated to the south of Amadiyah district inside Iraqi territory.

3. On 18 January 1997 Turkish fighter aircraft bombarded the villages of Sita and Sidah situated to the east of Amadiyah district inside Iraqi territory and those of Karafi and Bazah situated to the north-west of Amadiyah district inside Iraqi territory. The bombardment of the latter village resulted in the killing of an Iraqi citizen who was one of its inhabitants. On the same date, Turkish village guards penetrated the village of Awrah situated to the north-west of Amadiyah district inside Iraqi territory and engaged in military operations.

4. On 19 January 1997 Turkish fighter aircraft bombarded Armisht area situated to the south-east of Zakho district inside Iraqi territory.

5. On 24 January 1997 Turkish fighter aircraft bombarded the village of Sharanish situated to the north of Zakho district inside Iraqi territory. The bombardment resulted in the death of some livestock.

6. On 25 January 1997 Turkish fighter aircraft bombarded the village of Banik situated to the north-east of Zakho district inside Iraqi territory. On the same date, Turkish artillery also bombarded Hash, Sinat Ji, Rizqiyyah, Hawsi and Hawrah situated to the north of Amadiyah district inside Iraqi territory.

7. On 13 February 1997 a Turkish military force reinforced by Turkish village guards and supported by a number of Turkish fighter aircraft penetrated inside Iraqi territory in the direction of the Kani Rash sector.

8. Between 1200 and 1247 hours on 13 February 1997 eight sorties of Turkish fighter aircraft were detected over the areas of Shirawan, Amadiyah, Aqrah and Shaqlawah, to the east of Irbil inside Iraqi airspace.

9. On 13 February 1997 Turkish fighter aircraft bombarded the villages of Khazinah, Mahbab and Wadi Dawlat Raqqah situated to the east of Kuysanjaq district inside Iraqi territory. The bombardment resulted in the death of three

persons and the wounding of others, as well as damage to various houses and the death of livestock.

10. At 1200 hours on 14 February 1997 Turkish fighter aircraft bombarded the areas of Harunah, Bitas and Bizal situated to the south-east of Zakho district inside Iraqi territory.

11. On 14 February 1997, a small Turkish force crossed into Iraqi territory in the direction of the Kani Rash sector to the north of Randuz district. Supported by Turkish helicopters, it searched the area of the border strip, including the Kulli Rash area, and withdrew inside Turkish territory on the same date.

12. Between 1407 and 1415 hours on 28 February 1997 a Turkish fighter aircraft was detected on an aerial sortie in Iraqi airspace over the Pibu region.

13. On 28 February 1997 a Turkish helicopter gunship violated Iraqi airspace to a depth of 50 kilometres over the Pibu region in the northern Iraqi district of Amadiyah.

14. On 8 March 1997 two Turkish fighter aircraft bombarded the region of Hurki and the slopes and heights surrounding the region of Nazdur in the north-east of Zakho district, inside Iraqi territory. One local citizen was injured by the bombardment.

15. On 8 March 1997 Turkish artillery bombarded the slopes and heights of Kari Shish and Jalda in the north-east of Zakho district, inside Iraqi territory.

16. On 8 March 1997 two Turkish fighter aircraft and one helicopter engaged in reconnaissance along the border strip, within the restricted area between Ufkuzi and Sinat in the north-east of Zakho district, inside Iraqi territory.

17. At 1200 hours on 11 March 1997 six Turkish fighter aircraft dropped napalm on the Iraqi villages of Birkaman, Daraw, Kulit, Litan and Bashgan in the Iraq-Turkey-Iran triangle, destroying five houses and injuring a number of citizens.

18. Between 1220 and 1228 hours on 15 March 1997 two sorties of Turkish military aircraft were detected inside Iraqi airspace.

19. On 15 March 1997 two Turkish military aircraft violated Iraqi airspace to a depth of 15 kilometres east of Zakho district and south of Amadiyah.

20. Between 1957 and 2037 hours on 21 March 1997 a Turkish military aircraft was detected making a sortie over the region of Zakho, inside Iraqi airspace.

21. On 21 March 1997 two Turkish fighter aircraft bombarded the villages of Nazdur, Bazi and Bayshalah north-east of Amadiyah district inside Iraqi territory. The bombardment killed one local citizen and a number of cattle.

In conveying to you the details of these Turkish violations, the Government of Iraq expresses its condemnation of such acts of military aggression. It does so because the practices of the Turkish forces, as represented by their repeated

shelling of towns and villages in Iraq and their unlawful incursions into Iraqi territory, are in flagrant violation of Iraq's sovereignty and the inviolability of its territory and airspace, just as they are incompatible with relations of good-neighbourliness, the Charter of the United Nations, the norms of international law and the 1926 Iraq-Turkey boundary agreement. These practices may also undermine stability in the region as a whole, which is suffering primarily from the anomalous situation created by the United States of America and its allies in northern Iraq.

As stated in my previous letter, the Turkish Government bears full international responsibility for the acts of aggression it commits inside Iraqi territory and for all their consequences, regardless of the alleged reasons it gives.

The Government of Iraq reserves its legitimate right under international law to seek compensation for the damage caused by these Turkish violations of its territory and its airspace and for the human suffering inflicted on Iraqi citizens by these actions. Through you, it renews its call to the Government of Turkey to reconsider its policy with respect to the situation in northern Iraq, to promote the collaboration of the two countries on the basis of considerations of good-neighbourliness and mutual respect for sovereignty and to eliminate the reasons for the persistence of a situation that jeopardizes the interests of both countries.

As, through you, I reiterate my country's call to its Turkish neighbour to respect Iraq's sovereignty and territorial integrity, I express the hope that the United Nations will meet its responsibilities as laid down in the Charter and that it will halt the intimidation and aggression to which my country is constantly being subjected.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mohammed Said AL-SAHAF
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Iraq

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S/1997/319
18 April 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 18 APRIL 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit to you a copy of the official communiqué of the Fourth Arusha Regional Summit on the Burundi conflict, which met in the United Republic of Tanzania on Wednesday, 16 April 1997.

I should appreciate it if the present letter and the attached communiqué could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Daudi N. MWAKAWAGO
Ambassador

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97-10564 (E) 180497

Annex

JOINT COMMUNIQUÉ OF THE FOURTH ARUSHA REGIONAL SUMMIT ON THE BURUNDI CONFLICT, ISSUED ON 16 APRIL 1997

1. At the invitation of President Benjamin William Mkapa of the United Republic of Tanzania, Presidents Daniel Arap Moi of Kenya, Yoweri Kaguta Museveni of Uganda, Frederick Chiluba of Zambia and Prime Ministers Meles Zenawi of Ethiopia and Celestin Rwigyema of Rwanda held their fourth Summit on the Great Lakes Region in Arusha on 16 April 1997 to take stock, in particular, of the recent developments in the Burundi conflict. The President of Burundi, Major Pierre Buyoya, was also invited to attend.

2. Also participating in the Regional Summit were the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, Mr. Salim Ahmed Salim, and the Facilitator of the Peace Process, Mwalimu Julius Nyerere.

3. The Regional Summit reviewed the situation and developments in Burundi, since its last meeting on 12 October 1996. The Summit also heard the presentation of President Pierre Buyoya of Burundi on the actions he had taken so far in response to the demands of the regional leaders for the restoration of normalcy and negotiated end to the current conflict in Burundi.

4. The Regional Summit underscored the importance of negotiations to bring about a political solution to the problems in Burundi. The Summit welcomed the continuing efforts being made by Mwalimu Julius Nyerere as Facilitator of the Arusha and Mwanza Peace Process. It reiterated its full support for Mwalimu Nyerere and encouraged him to continue with those efforts.

5. The Regional Summit underscored the fact that as far as Burundi was concerned, its objectives and those of the African continent as well as the wider international community converge on the need to end the cycle of violence in Burundi and a negotiated settlement to the conflict in that country. In order to facilitate the early attainment of these common objectives, the Regional Summit appeals to the rest of the continent, and especially to the international community, to exert full political, economic and diplomatic pressures on all the parties in Burundi to pursue a negotiated settlement to the conflict. Such pressures should include an arms embargo, as well as the denial of visas to those who are deemed to be obstructing the peace process. The Summit stressed that no one should arm any of the protagonists and called for the immediate cessation of hostilities.

6. The Regional Summit called on the Government of Burundi and all the parties to the conflict urgently to take steps to create the necessary environment propitious for negotiations and national reconciliation to take place. In particular, the Summit called on the Government to disband the "regroupment" camps and allow the people to resume their normal activities without any hindrance.

7. The Summit considered that for the creation of a conducive spirit for national reconciliation and negotiations to take place, the Government of

Burundi is urged to restore the freedom of the Speaker of the National Assembly and facilitate his work. The Summit considers him an important interlocutor in the process of negotiations.

8. The Regional Summit decided also to expand with immediate effect the easing of sanctions to include all food and food products, all items relating to education and construction materials, as well as all types of medicines, and all agricultural items and inputs in order to alleviate the suffering of the people of Burundi.

9. The Regional Summit decided to designate immediately focal points in every country to facilitate the smooth and efficient implementation of this decision. In the meantime, the Summit called for the speedy and efficient implementation of the exemptions already agreed upon so as to ensure an uninterrupted flow of humanitarian assistance.

10. The Summit declared its readiness to suspend all sanctions, with the exception of the arms embargo, once there is movement in the negotiations.

11. The Regional Summit expressed its gratitude to President Benjamin William Mkapa and to the people and Government of the United Republic of Tanzania for hosting the Summit and for the hospitality accorded to the heads of delegation.

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S/1997/320
21 April 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 17 APRIL 1997 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

As you are aware, Professor Han Sung-Joo has informed me that, due to other pressing commitments, he will be unable to continue as my Special Representative for Cyprus beyond the expiration of his current appointment on 30 April.

I have accepted his decision with much regret and wish to place on record my warm appreciation for his dedicated work in the last twelve months.

I am determined to pursue intensified efforts to bring about a comprehensive settlement of the Cyprus issue. In that regard, I hope that in the next two or three months it will be possible for me to convene direct talks between the two leaders. To this end, I have decided to appoint Mr. Diego Cordovez of Ecuador as my Special Adviser on Cyprus with effect from 28 April. His primary task will be to prepare and assist me in chairing the next rounds of the inter-communal talks.

I should be grateful if you would bring this matter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(Signed) Kofi ANNAN

97-10673 (E) 210497

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S/1997/321
21 April 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 21 APRIL 1997 FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 17 April 1997 (S/1997/320) has been brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council. The members of the Council take note of the information contained in the letter and welcome your decision to appoint Mr. Diego Cordovez of Ecuador as your Special Adviser on Cyprus.

(Signed) António MONTEIRO
President of the Security Council

97-10679 (E) 210497

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General Assembly
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A/51/879
S/1997/322
21 April 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-first session
Agenda item 58
QUESTION OF CYPRUS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-second year

Letter dated 17 April 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to draw your attention to new violations of the airspace of the Republic of Cyprus and of the flight information region of Nicosia by military aircraft of the Turkish Air Force, recorded on 11 April 1997.

On 11 April 1997, 18 Turkish F-16 military planes, flying in formation of 4 at a time, from 0820 to 1135 hours, violated the Nicosia flight information region and national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus. The planes flew over the areas of the Monastery of Ayios Andreas and Cape Crecco, and then exited heading towards Turkey.

These Turkish actions heighten tension in Cyprus and are in contravention of the provisions of repeated Security Council resolution on Cyprus, which state that such overflights increase political tension on the island and undermine efforts towards achieving a final settlement. At the same time, such unauthorized intrusions into the Nicosia flight information region and the airspace of the Republic are in violation of international air traffic rules and seriously endanger civil aviation flights over Cyprus.

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus, I wish to protest strongly against the new violations of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus. These violations are in complete disregard of international law, the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant decisions of the Organization on the question of Cyprus. Moreover, they continue to take place at a sensitive phase of the efforts to resume the inter-communal talks under your auspices.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the fifty-first session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 58, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nicos AGATHOCLEOUS
Ambassador, Permanent Representative

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S/1997/323
21 April 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 16 APRIL 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF AZERBAIJAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

In accordance with instructions I have received, I would like to request you to circulate the text of the enclosed appeal to the President of the Russian Federation, Mr. Boris N. Yeltsin, issued by the Milli Majlis (Parliament) of Azerbaijan on 4 April 1997 as a document of the Security Council (see annex).

(Signed) Eldar G. KOULIEV
Permanent Representative

97-10715 (E) 210497 210497

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Annex

[Original: Russian]

APPEAL TO B. N. YELTSIN, PRESIDENT OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, FROM THE MILLI MAJLIS (PARLIAMENT) OF THE AZERBAIJANI REPUBLIC

(adopted by the Milli Majlis (Parliament) of Azerbaijan at its meeting on 4 April 1997)

On 4 March 1997, the Milli Majlis (Parliament) of the Azerbaijani Republic adopted an appeal to the State Duma of the Russian Federation and to the Parliaments of all States members of the Commonwealth of Independent States concerning illegal arms transfers from Russia to Armenia.

In this context, the President of the Azerbaijani Republic, Heydar Aliyev and the Milli Majlis (Parliament) of Azerbaijan, at its meeting on 14 March 1997 appealed to you concerning illegal transfers of military equipment from Russia to Armenia. Other authorities of the Azerbaijani Republic and numerous representatives of Azerbaijani society, including representatives of the Russian community who consider Azerbaijan to be their country, also appealed to various State bodies and key figures of the Russian Federation calling for an investigation into the above-mentioned facts.

From these appeals it emerges that arms transfers from the Russian Federation to Armenia are taking place regularly, that Armenian military personnel are being trained in the Russian Federation and that arms and military equipment are widely deployed in that part of Azerbaijani territory which is occupied by Armenia. According to reliable sources to which Azerbaijan has access, Armenia has missiles with a range of up to 300 kilometres, capable of carrying nuclear warheads. These missiles can annihilate any town in Azerbaijan or other countries in the region.

Although these facts have been confirmed by the information media of various countries, including those of the Russian Federation, and by meetings of the Duma of the Russian Federation, the Republic of Armenia and the political circles which support it as well as certain high-ranking figures of the Russian Federation claim that these allegations are totally without foundation.

Nevertheless, according to information communicated to the media in Russia, at a meeting of the Duma held on 2 April 1997 it was stated officially that between 1993 and 1996 large quantities of weapons and modern military equipment were transferred to Armenia: R-17 missile launchers; Kroug and Osa missile systems; T-72 and BMP-2 tanks; D-39, D-20 and D-1 howitzers; Grad rocket launchers and Igla missile systems. Moreover the Ministry of Defence of the Russian Federation delivered huge quantities of mortars, automatic weapons, machine guns, handguns, rocket launchers, anti-tank guided missiles and munitions to Armenia. The total cost of the military material transferred without intermediary amounts to approximately one billion United States dollars.

The analysis of the above-mentioned facts demonstrates, once again, that the Republic of Armenia, which claims to be seeking a peaceful settlement of the

conflict in Upper Karabakh, in fact has not abandoned its aims of conquest and continues secretly to arm itself illegally, intensifying its policy of aggression against the Azerbaijani Republic. Under these circumstances, transfers of Russian arms to the aggressor raise serious doubts among the Azerbaijani population as to the sincerity of Russia's policy in the Caucasus.

Unilaterally arming the aggressor is likely to create an explosive situation and trigger a wide-scale war, not only in Transcaucasia, but over a broader territory that includes Russia. By deliberately arming one State of the Commonwealth of Independent States - Armenia - against another - Azerbaijan - Russia may well incite Armenia to commit further acts of aggression. History has shown time and again that encouraging and unilaterally arming an aggressor is fraught with dangerous and unfortunate consequences. One assumes, however, that the lessons of history do not escape Russian politicians. The fact that the deliveries of arms and military equipment to Armenia are taking place at the precise moment when influential international organizations and great Powers - notably Russia - are endeavouring to find a peaceful settlement to the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan and that a cease-fire is in place is particularly troubling. The situation which has been created demonstrates that a peaceful settlement to the conflict is not to the liking of Armenia and certain influential circles in Russia.

The Milli Majlis of the Azerbaijani Republic has again declared that the deliveries of military equipment from Russia to Armenia are quite simply a violation of the provisions of the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe and that they alter the military balance in the region in favour of Armenia, which may seriously compromise the peaceful settlement of the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan on the basis of the universally recognized principles of international law.

The Milli Majlis of the Azerbaijani Republic expresses its profound gratitude to Mr. Lev Rokhline and to all deputies of the State Duma of the Russian Federation who adopted an objective position on this question and hopes that the Russian authorities will put a stop to such incidents, which threaten to jeopardize the traditional relations of friendship between Azerbaijan and Russia.

The Milli Majlis of the Azerbaijani Republic notes with concern that the illegal deliveries of arms from Russia to Armenia, which are highly prejudicial to the authority of the Russian Federation in Azerbaijan and in the region, cause the population to harbour serious doubts about the action taken by Russia in its capacity as co-chairman of the Minsk Group of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), which is responsible for settling the conflicts of Upper Karabakh.

The Milli Majlis of the Azerbaijani Republic urges you to use your influence to ensure that an investigation is conducted as soon as possible under the supervision of the Procurator-General of the Russian Federation, Y. I. Skouratov, into the question of illegal Russian arms deliveries to Armenia, that the guilty parties are severely punished and that the arms, munitions and military equipment are all returned to Russia under the supervision of international observers.

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S/1997/324
21 April 1997
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 16 APRIL 1997 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF KUWAIT TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

In my capacity as Chairman of the Group of Arab States for the month of April 1997 and on behalf of the States members of the League of Arab States, I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of resolution 5638, of 31 March 1997, adopted at the one hundred and seventh regular session of the Council of the League of Arab States, entitled "The situation in Somalia".

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ali AL-SAEID
Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the
Permanent Mission of Kuwait to
the United Nations and Chairman
of the Group of Arab States

97-10661 (E) 210497 210497

Annex

The situation in Somalia

The Council of the League of Arab States,

Having considered the note by the General Secretariat, the previous resolutions of the Council on this question and the recommendation of the Political Affairs Committee,

Having studied the most recent developments in the situation in Somalia,

Proceeding from the Declaration of the Arab Summit Conference held in Cairo from 21 to 23 June 1996,

Considering the resolutions of the Security Council on this subject, in particular resolution 733 (1992) and the statement by the President of the Council dated 27 February 1997,

Reaffirming the complementarity between action by Arabs and the efforts of all international and regional organizations, the other international parties and the States bordering on Somalia, and the necessity of coordinating all such action with a view to ensuring the stability, unity, integrity and sovereignty of Somalia, which will help to strengthen stability in the region as a whole,

Expressing its satisfaction with the positive attitudes expressed by the Somali leaders who took part in the 1996 Nairobi meeting, their dialogue aimed at establishing peace and security and reopening the port and airport of Mogadishu, the agreement concluded between the Somali factions in Addis Ababa on 3 January 1997 to establish a Council of National Salvation of Somalia and their intention to pursue the dialogue with other Somali parties which have not participated in this agreement and underscoring the importance of participation by the other Somali parties in these peace efforts aimed at achieving national reconciliation,

Having heard the statements by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs and the presentation by the Secretary-General concerning the latest developments with regard to Somalia, in the light of the meeting he has had in Cairo with the Executive Committee of the Council of National Salvation of Somalia,

1. Urges all the Somali parties to desist immediately from the fighting and to settle their disputes by means of dialogue and national reconciliation, which is the only way to end the bloodshed in Somalia, alleviate the suffering of the Somali people and safeguard its supreme national interests;

2. Welcomes the positive and peaceful developments in the situation, including the creation of the Council of National Salvation of Somalia, announced in Sodere, Ethiopia, and calls upon the members of the Council of National Salvation to pursue a dialogue with all the other Somali parties with a view to achieving national reconciliation in Somalia;

3. Calls upon the Special Ministerial Committee on Somalia to redouble its efforts to have contacts with the different Somali factions, States bordering on Somalia and the relevant international and regional organizations and to establish coordination with them aimed at securing a peaceful settlement of the Somali conflict, the holding of a national reconciliation conference within Somalia and the establishment of a broadly representative national authority reflecting the wishes of the different segments of the Somali population;

4. Expresses its appreciation for all the efforts made at the local, regional and international levels to promote a peaceful settlement in Somalia, and reaffirms the importance of the complementarity of all such efforts with a view to ensuring Somalia's stability, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity;

5. Calls upon international and regional organizations, in particular the United Nations, the Organization of African Unity, the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the European Union, to strengthen their cooperation with the League of Arab States in order to assist the Somali parties to pursue the national dialogue and achieve Somali reconciliation;

6. Calls upon the international community to continue to provide humanitarian assistance in all parts of Somalia and to allocate financial resources and in-kind contributions to assist the Somali people in promoting the recovery and reconstruction of its country once security and stability have been achieved in Somalia;

7. Calls upon the international community, as represented by the United Nations and its specialized agencies, to take the necessary measures to put an end to the disposal by certain parties of toxic wastes in Somali territory and to illegal fishing in Somalia's territorial waters;

8. Urges all the parties to comply with the embargo on deliveries of weapons to Somalia in accordance with Security Council resolution 733 (1992) so as to contribute to security in Somalia and help to bring about a peaceful settlement of the Somali crisis;

9. Calls upon member States to pay their financial contributions in order to enable the League of Arab States to assume its political and humanitarian role vis-à-vis the Somali people, to participate in the restoration of stability throughout the Somalia territory and to safeguard Somalia's unity and national sovereignty;

10. Expresses its gratitude to the State of Kuwait for its speedy offer of a contribution of $100,000 to support the national reconciliation efforts in Somalia;

11. Expresses its gratitude and pays a tribute to the State of Qatar, represented by His Highness Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani, Emir of the State of Qatar, who has announced that he would defray the costs of the national reconciliation conference which is to be held in Somalia;

12. Requests member States, the Ministerial Committee and relevant Arab bodies, funds and institutions to continue to provide material and humanitarian assistance to the Somali people and to allocate the necessary financial and technical resources for recovery and reconstruction in Somalia in coordination with the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States;

13. Requests member States to provide assistance in the cultural sphere, to provide access for Somali pupils and students to their schools, institutes and universities and to provide study grants to them in order to preserve the Arab identity of Somalia;

14. Expresses its gratitude to the Secretary-General for the efforts he has made and requests him to continue his endeavours to promote national concord in Somalia and to submit a report to the Council at its next session.

(Resolution 5638, 31 March 1997)

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-second session
Item 82 of the preliminary list*
REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-second year

Letter dated 18 April 1997 from the Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to draw your attention to the statement on Zaire made on 10 April 1997 by the Presidency of the European Union (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 82 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) N. H. BIEGMAN
Permanent Representative
of the Netherlands to
the United Nations

* A/52/50.

ANNEX

[Original: English and French]

Statement on Zaire made on 10 April 1997 by the Presidency of the European Union

The European Union has learned with great concern of the latest political developments in Zaire. It calls upon all parties concerned in Kinshasa to show the necessary restraint and to respect the basic terms of the democratic transition process. The Union hopes that order in the capital will be maintained in a peaceful manner.

The Union calls upon all the parties to the conflict in Zaire to engage fully in the search for a speedy political solution and to refrain immediately from further violence. In this regard, the Union repeats its support for the peace plan of the joint United Nations/Organization of African Unity Special Representative for the Great Lakes region, Ambassador Mohamed Sahnoun. The present developments underscore the importance of a political solution to the conflict. The Union reiterates its support for the process of democratic transition, leading towards elections, as the only road towards a peaceful and stable situation.

As fighting proceeds in different parts of the country, the Union appeals to all parties to respect the rights of the civilian population, to ensure the safety of foreign citizens and, if necessary, to facilitate their evacuation.

The European Union stresses the most urgent need for humanitarian assistance to reach refugees and displaced persons.

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S/1997/326
21 April 1997
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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-second session
Item 82 of the preliminary list*
REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-second year

Letter dated 18 April 1997 from the Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to draw your attention to the statement on Angola made on 11 April 1997 by the Presidency of the European Union (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 82 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) N. H. BIEGMAN
Permanent Representative of
the Netherlands to
the United Nations

* A/52/50.

ANNEX

[Original: English and French]

Statement on Angola made on 11 April 1997 by the Presidency of the European Union

The European Union welcomes the formation of the new Angolan Government of Unity and National Reconciliation, which was officially sworn in on 11 April 1997. This event marks an important step in the peace process initiated in Lisbon in 1991 and renewed in Lusaka in 1994, and sets Angola on the promising path of development for the benefit of all Angolans.

The European Union addresses to the new Government of Angola its most cordial wishes for a successful outcome to the peace process and assures the Government of its desire to cooperate actively in the recovery of a reconciled Angola.

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-first session
Agenda items 33 and 85
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE ISRAELI PRACTICES AFFECTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AND OTHER ARABS OF THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-second year

Identical letters dated 16 April 1997 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Kuwait to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

In my capacity as Chairman of the Group of Arab States for the month of April 1997, and on behalf of the States members of the League of Arab States, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a copy of resolution 5634 entitled "The Israeli occupation of parts of southern Lebanon and the western Bekaa and the implementation of Security Council resolution 425 (1978)", which was adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its one hundred and seventh regular session on 31 March 1997.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the fifty-first session of the General Assembly, under agenda items 33 and 85, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ali AL-SAEID
Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the
Permanent Mission of Kuwait to the
United Nations and Chairman of the
Group of Arab States

97-10591 (E) 220497 220497

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ANNEX

The Israeli occupation of parts of southern Lebanon and the western Bekaa and the implementation of Security Council resolution 425 (1978)

The Council of the League of Arab States,

Having examined the note of the General Secretariat and the recommendation of the Political Affairs Committee,

Noting Israel's continued occupation of parts of southern Lebanon and the western Bekaa in flagrant violation of international law and in continuing disregard of Security Council resolution 425 (1978),

Noting also with concern the daily acts of aggression carried out by Israel on Lebanese territory,

Recalling with regret the savage Israeli aggression to which Lebanon, particularly in the southern regions and the western Bekaa, was subjected in April 1996,

Reaffirming Lebanon's right to compensation for the human casualties and damage it suffers owing to repeated Israeli attacks and for the oppressive practices against the peaceful inhabitants of southern Lebanon and the western Bekaa that result from the Israeli occupation,

Recalling the Council's resolutions on Arab solidarity with the Lebanese Government for an end to the Israeli occupation of Lebanese territory, the most recent of which were its resolution 5586 (CVI) of 15 September 1996 and resolution 5573 adopted by the Council at its extraordinary session on 17 April 1996, the resolutions adopted by the Tenth, Eleventh and Twelfth Arab Summit Conferences and the final communiqué of the Arab Summit Conference held in Cairo on 23 June 1996, calling for support and assistance to the Lebanese Government for the rebuilding of the country, and supporting it in confronting the continued acts of Israeli aggression carried out against its territory, people and sovereignty,

Decides

1. To condemn Israel in the strongest terms for its continued occupation of parts of southern Lebanon and the western Bekaa; and to call upon the international community, and upon the United Nations and all its associated bodies in particular, to strive for the implementation of Security Council resolution 425 (1978) calling for Israel's immediate and unconditional withdrawal from all occupied Lebanese territory to the internationally recognized boundaries;

2. To condemn Israel in the strongest terms for its persistence in making repeated attacks on Lebanese territory; and to appeal to the international

community, international organizations and their member States to bring pressure to bear on Israel to pay compensation to Lebanon for the damage caused by its repeated attacks on Lebanese territory, particularly for the attack it launched against Lebanon during April 1996, and to take action to halt the inhumane and oppressive Israeli practices against the peaceful inhabitants of occupied Lebanese territory in the south and the western Bekaa;

3. To reaffirm its support for the efforts of the Lebanese State to extend its sovereignty and authority over all its territory, including the areas occupied by Israel in southern Lebanon and the western Bekaa;

4. To reaffirm the need for States members of the League of Arab States to implement Council resolution 5213 of 5 July 1992 calling for the provision of the assistance for the reconstruction of Lebanon allocated by them at their Tenth Summit Conference;

5. To extend its thanks to those States members of the League of Arab States that have provided the Lebanese Government with financial assistance, and to urge other member States also to make their contributions in order to support Lebanon's resolute stand and rebuild the country.

(Resolution 5634, one hundred and seventh regular session, 3rd meeting, 31 March 1997)

UNITED NATIONS

A S

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/51/882
S/1997/328
21 April 1997
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-first session
Agenda items 33 and 85
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE ISRAELI PRACTICES AFFECTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AND OTHER ARABS OF THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-second year

Identical letters dated 16 April 1997 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Kuwait to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

In my capacity as chairman of the Group of Arab States for the month of April 1997, and on behalf of the States members of the League of Arab States, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a copy of resolution 5635 entitled "Lebanese hostages and detainees held in Israeli camps and prisons", which was adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its one hundred and seventh regular session on 31 March 1997.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the fifty-first session of the General Assembly, under agenda items 33 and 85, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ali AL-SAEID
Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the
Permanent Mission of Kuwait to the
United Nations and Chairman of the
Group of Arab States

ANNEX

Lebanese hostages and detainees held
in Israeli camps and prisons

The Council of the League of Arab States,

Having examined the note of the General Secretariat and the recommendation of the Political Affairs Committee,

Noting with concern Israeli attacks and oppressive practices in the occupied Lebanese territories of southern Lebanon and the western Bekaa, in particular the kidnapping and detention of innocent citizens who are imprisoned without trial in prisons in Israel and in the camps run by forces under Israeli control,

Recalling with deep regret Israel's failure to implement Security Council resolution 425 (1978),

Mindful of the principles of international law concerning the protection of human rights, in particular the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the fourth Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 1949 and The Hague Convention of 1907,

Noting the insanitary and inhumane conditions in which the detainees are kept and in which a number of them have died,

Recalling the relevant resolutions of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights,

Recalling the Council's earlier resolutions on Lebanese hostages and detainees held in Israeli camps and prisons, the most recent of which was resolution 5587 (CVI) of 15 September 1996,

Decides

1. To condemn the persistent Israeli violations of human rights in the occupied regions of southern Lebanon and the western Bekaa, as exemplified by the kidnapping and arbitrary arrest of civilians and the destruction of their homes, the confiscation of their property and their expulsion from their land, as well as by the shelling of peaceful villages and urban areas;

2. To appeal to the international community, and the United Nations in particular, to take all necessary steps to deter Israel from committing such violations and to comply with Security Council resolution 425 (1978), which calls upon Israel to withdraw forthwith, completely and unconditionally, from all Lebanese territory and for respect for the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Lebanon;

3. To appeal to the international community to make all necessary representations to Israel to secure the immediate release of all Lebanese prisoners and victims of kidnapping held in prisons in Israel and in the camps run by forces under Israeli control in violation of the provisions of international law, the fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 and The Hague Convention of 1907;

4. To urge the member States of the League to use their good offices in international organizations so that all necessary representations are made to the Government of Israel, the occupying Power, to enable the International Committee of the Red Cross and other humanitarian organizations to visit the detainees in Khiam and Marj Uyun periodically and on a regular basis, and to ensure that the conditions in which they are being kept are inspected, that they are provided with health and humanitarian care and that their relatives are allowed to visit them regularly;

5. To demand that investigations be held, as required by international treaties, concerning Lebanese detainees who have died in Israeli camps and prisons, and that appropriate compensation be paid for those who have suffered, in accordance with the applicable international law.

(Resolution 5635, one hundred and seventh regular session, 3rd meeting, 31 March 1997)

UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1997/329
22 April 1997
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 16 APRIL 1997 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF KUWAIT TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

LEAGUE OF ARAB STATES

OFFICE OF THE PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

No.: 447 16 April 1997
File No.: 1/2

Sir,

In my capacity as Chairman of the Group of Arab States for the month of April 1997 and on behalf of the States members of the League of Arab States, I have the honour to transmit herewith resolution 5637, of 31 March 1997, adopted at the one hundred and seventh regular session of the Council of the League of Arab States, entitled "The occupation by Iran of the Arab islands belonging to the United Arab Emirates in the Arabian Gulf".

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ali AL-SAEID
Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the
Permanent Mission of Kuwait to
the United Nations and Chairman
of the Group of Arab States

Annex

The occupation by Iran of the Arab islands belonging to the United Arab Emirates in the Arabian Gulf

The Council of the League of Arab States,

Having considered:

The note by the General Secretariat,

The content of the Final Declaration of the Arab Summit Conference held in Cairo from 21 to 23 June 1996,

The failure of the Iranian Government to respond to the sincere and earnest calls of the Arab Summit Conference, the Council of the League of Arab States, the Damascus Declaration countries, the Gulf Cooperation Council and the United Arab Emirates for a peaceful solution to the dispute,

The persistence of the Iranian Government in implementing measures aimed at consolidating its occupation of the three islands belonging to the United Arab Emirates, and in forcibly imposing the status quo,

The continuing Iranian violations of the sovereignty of the United Arab Emirates,

And the recommendation of the Political Affairs Committee,

Decides

1. To reaffirm all its previous resolutions on the question;

2. To renew its affirmation of the sovereignty of the United Arab Emirates over its three islands of Greater Tunb, Lesser Tunb and Abu Musa, as well as its unequivocal affirmation of all the peaceful measures and means which it adopts with a view to restoring its sovereignty over those islands;

3. To express its disapproval of the Iranian Government's persistence in implementing measures aimed at consolidating its occupation of the three islands and violating the sovereignty of the United Arab Emirates so as to disturb security and stability in the region;

4. To renew its call to the Iranian Government to end its occupation of the three islands, refrain from practising a policy of forcibly imposing the status quo, cease erecting facilities in the three islands with the aim of altering their demographic composition, revoke all measures and remove all facilities previously put in place unilaterally in the three islands and pursue peaceful means with a view to solving the existing dispute in accordance with the principles and rules of international law, including agreement to refer the case to the International Court of Justice;

5. To request the Secretary-General to inform the United Nations of the importance of ensuring that the question remains before the Security Council until Iran ends its occupation of the three islands and the United Arab Emirates regains full sovereignty over them;

6. To request the Secretary-General to monitor the situation and submit a report thereon to the Council at its next session.

(Resolution 5637, 31 March 1997).

UNITED
NATIONS

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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1997/329*
25 April 1997
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 16 APRIL 1997 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I.
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF KUWAIT TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

In my capacity as Chairman of the Group of Arab States for the month of April 1997 and on behalf of the States members of the League of Arab States, I have the honour to transmit herewith resolution 5637, of 31 March 1997, adopted at the one hundred and seventh regular session of the Council of the League of Arab States, entitled "The occupation by Iran of the Arab islands belonging to the United Arab Emirates in the Arabian Gulf".

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ali AL-SAEID
Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the
Permanent Mission of Kuwait to
the United Nations and Chairman
of the Group of Arab States

* Reissued for technical reasons.

97-11217 (E) 220497 250497

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Annex

The occupation by Iran of the Arab islands belonging to the United Arab Emirates in the Arabian Gulf

The Council of the League of Arab States,

Having considered:

The note by the General Secretariat,

The content of the Final Declaration of the Arab Summit Conference held in Cairo from 21 to 23 June 1996,

The failure of the Iranian Government to respond to the sincere and earnest calls of the Arab Summit Conference, the Council of the League of Arab States, the Damascus Declaration countries, the Gulf Cooperation Council and the United Arab Emirates for a peaceful solution to the dispute,

The persistence of the Iranian Government in implementing measures aimed at consolidating its occupation of the three islands belonging to the United Arab Emirates, and in forcibly imposing the status quo,

The continuing Iranian violations of the sovereignty of the United Arab Emirates,

And the recommendation of the Political Affairs Committee,

Decides

1. To reaffirm all its previous resolutions on the question;

2. To renew its affirmation of the sovereignty of the United Arab Emirates over its three islands of Greater Tunb, Lesser Tunb and Abu Musa, as well as its unequivocal affirmation of all the peaceful measures and means which it adopts with a view to restoring its sovereignty over those islands;

3. To express its disapproval of the Iranian Government's persistence in implementing measures aimed at consolidating its occupation of the three islands and violating the sovereignty of the United Arab Emirates so as to disturb security and stability in the region;

4. To renew its call to the Iranian Government to end its occupation of the three islands, refrain from practising a policy of forcibly imposing the status quo, cease erecting facilities in the three islands with the aim of altering their demographic composition, revoke all measures and remove all facilities previously put in place unilaterally in the three islands and pursue peaceful means with a view to solving the existing dispute in accordance with the principles and rules of international law, including agreement to refer the case to the International Court of Justice;

5. To request the Secretary-General to inform the United Nations of the importance of ensuring that the question remains before the Security Council until Iran ends its occupation of the three islands and the United Arab Emirates regains full sovereignty over them;

6. To request the Secretary-General to monitor the situation and submit a report thereon to the Council at its next session.

(Resolution 5637, 31 March 1997).

UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly
Security Council

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S/1997/330
21 April 1997
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-first session
Agenda items 33 and 85

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-second year

THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE ISRAELI PRACTICES AFFECTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AND OTHER ARABS OF THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

Identical letters dated 16 April 1997 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Kuwait to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

In my capacity as Chairman of the Group of Arab States for the month of April 1997, and on behalf of the States members of the League of Arab States, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a copy of resolution 5633 entitled "The occupied Syrian Arab Golan", adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its one hundred and seventh regular session on 31 March 1997.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the fifty-first session of the General Assembly, under agenda items 33 and 85, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ali AL-SAEID
Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the
Permanent Mission of Kuwait to
the United Nations and Chairman
of the Group of Arab States

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Annex

The Occupied Syrian Arab Golan

- A -

The Council of the League of Arab States,

Having examined the note of the General Secretariat and the recommendation of the Political Affairs Committee,

Having consulted the communiqué issued by the Special Arab Summit Conference held in Cairo from 21 to 23 June 1996, concerning the declaration by Arab leaders that a complete Israeli withdrawal from the Syrian Golan to the line of 4 June 1967 is essential in order to achieve a comprehensive and just peace, and that the building of settlements in the occupied Syrian Arab Golan and the attracting of settlers thereto constitute a violation of the Geneva Conventions and the Madrid Peace Conference, and an obstacle to the peace process,

Following with increased concern and apprehension the continued Israeli occupation of the Syrian Arab Golan, Israel's persistent refusal to apply the United Nations resolutions and to submit to the will of the international community, which considers the Israeli occupation and its decision to annex the Syrian Arab Golan as null and void and lacking validity,

Having carefully studied the situation in the occupied Syrian Arab Golan in the light of the practices of the Israeli occupying authorities in violation of the Charter of the United Nations, international treaties, international law, the United Nations resolutions and the peace process,

Recalling its earlier resolutions as well as international resolutions affirming the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force,

Decides

1. To reaffirm its resolution 4126 of 13 January 1982 and subsequent resolutions, the most recent being resolution 5542 of 21 March 1996, which provides that all measures adopted by the Israeli occupying authorities with a view to altering the juridical, natural and demographic situation in the occupied Syrian Arab Golan are to be rejected and that Israeli measures to extend Israeli sovereignty over the occupied Syrian Arab Golan are to be considered as unlawful and null and void and as constituting a violation of international agreements, the Charter of the United Nations and the United Nations resolutions, in particular Security Council resolution 497 (1981), General Assembly resolution 51/28 of 4 December 1996, which affirmed that the Israeli decision of 14 December 1981 annexing the occupied Syrian Arab Golan was unlawful and null and void and that the Knesset decision of 11 November 1991 for the same purpose was null and void and without validity and constituted a grave violation of Security Council resolution 497 (1981);

2. To call upon the sponsors of the peace process and the international community to assume their responsibility for compelling Israel to comply with the applicable international resolutions calling for complete withdrawal from the occupied Syrian Arab Golan and to assist Syria in its firm position of commitment to the achievement of a just and comprehensive peace in the region;

3. To support the resistance of the Syrian Arab nationals and stand by them in their opposition to Israel's occupation and repressive practices, their persistence in clinging to their land and their Syrian Arab identity, and to reaffirm the applicability of the 1949 Geneva Convention to the citizens of the occupied Syrian Arab Golan;

4. To appeal to the international community, and especially the sponsors of the Madrid Peace Conference on the Middle East, to prevail upon Israel to implement the United Nations resolutions on complete Israeli withdrawal from the Golan to the line of 4 June 1967 and from the occupied Arab territories;

5. To reaffirm the resolute support of the Arab States for Syria's just claim and its right to the return of all the occupied Syrian Arab Golan, based on the foundations of the peace process and the United Nations resolutions;

6. To adhere to the legitimate international resolutions that refuse to recognize or accept any situation resulting from Israeli settlement activity in the occupied Arab territories, considering that such activity is unlawful and creates no rights or obligations, and considering also that the building of settlements and the attracting of settlers thereto constitute a violation of the Geneva Conventions, the Madrid Peace Conference, and an obstacle to the peace process, which calls for an end to all Israeli settlement activity in the occupied Syrian Golan and occupied Arab territories.

- B -

The Council of the League,

Expressing its extreme concern with regard to Israel's continued attempts to thwart the will of the international community and its obduracy in upholding decisions to annex territory which the international community considers null and void, particularly the Knesset decision of 13 March 1996 to approve the preliminary reading of the draft law concerning consolidation of the annexation of the Golan,

Decides

1. To condemn any attempts to consolidate the occupation of the Syrian Golan, considering such attempts as being in defiance of the will of the international community and of legitimate international resolutions, particularly Security Council resolution 497 (1981), which declares Israeli measures in the Golan null and void.

2. To condemn Israeli threats against Syria intended to escalate tension in the region and destroy the peace process.

Res. No. 5633 OS 107 J3 31 March 1997

UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly
Security Council

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A/52/123
S/1997/331
22 April 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-second session
Items 40, 81 and 82 of the
preliminary list*
COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS
AND THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY
AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE
MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY
REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING
OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-second year

Letter dated 16 April 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you of the most recent gross violation by the armed forces of the Republic or Armenia of the ceasefire regime that has been in effect in the region of the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict for almost three years.

On 15 April 1997, a delegation of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), which is the main mediator in the conflict, headed by Mr. Andrzej Kasprzyk, Personal Representative of the Chairman-in-Office of OSCE, and consisting of the Personal Representative's field assistant, Col. M. Hoholacek, and other officials, came under fire by the Armenian side. They were visiting the region on an official mission to monitor the compliance by the parties to the conflict with the ceasefire regime.

The Armenian side opened indiscriminate fire on the international team of mediators in spite of the agreement reached earlier between OSCE and the parties to the conflict allowing the former to conduct this mission.

This impudent provocation testifies once again to the unwillingness of Armenia, which continues to occupy more than 20 per cent of Azerbaijan's

* A/52/50.

territory, to pursue the path of a political settlement of this tragic conflict and definitely puts in further jeopardy the already fragile peace process.

In this connection I have the honour to forward to you herewith the text of a press release issued on 16 April 1997 by the Press Service of the Ministry of Defence of the Azerbaijan Republic regarding the above-mentioned incident (see annex) and should be grateful if you would circulate the present letter and its annex as a document of the General Assembly, under items 40, 81 and 82 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Eldar G. KOULIEV
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Press release issued on 16 April 1997 by the Press Service of the Ministry of Defence of Azerbaijan

On 14 April 1997, Mr. Andrzej Kasprzyk, Personal Representative of the Chairman-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) on the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict, visited the region in order to monitor the situation on the front line.

On 15 April, Mr. Kasprzyk, accompanied by his field assistant, Col. M. Hoholacek, and other officials, came under fire between 3.05 and 3.15 p.m. in the Horadiz district while monitoring the compliance by the parties with the ceasefire in the vicinity of the troops on the line of confrontation.

Despite the agreement reached earlier on the conduct of this monitoring mission and ignoring both the OSCE insignia on the mission's vehicle and the OSCE flag, the Armenian side opened indiscriminate fire on the monitors, thus preventing them from accomplishing their task.

Mr. Kasprzyk admitted that, as a result of this action of the Armenian side, the ceasefire regime had been violated and that he himself and his team had become the targets. He stated that one could indeed speak about poor discipline in the Armenian army and the insubordination of certain armed units to the orders of the high command.

The Personal Representative of the Chairman-in-Office of OSCE called this outrageous act an extraordinary incident and indicated his intention to report it to the OSCE authorities.

UNITED
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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1997/332
22 April 1997
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 22 APRIL 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that violations of Iraq's airspace by United States, British and French aircraft continued over the period 1 to 15 April 1997 and that the aircraft in question carried out reconnaissance and engaged in acts of provocation, as set forth in the annex hereto.

You are requested to intervene with these countries with a view to bringing a halt to actions that, as flagrant violations of the Charter of the United Nations and of international law, pose a threat to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Iraq.

These actions continue to alarm the civilian population and to cause serious damage to private and public property. The Republic of Iraq affirms its right to seek legal compensation for the damage being inflicted on the Iraqi people and the Iraqi State by these actions.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

97-10881 (E) 230497 230497 240497

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Annex

Violations of Iraq's airspace and damage caused, 1-15 April 1997

1. In the northern region 47 sorties were flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 9,000 metres, over the following Iraqi cities and towns: Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Amadiyah, Zakho, Aqrah and Tall Afar.

2. In the southern region 865 sorties were flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 9,000 metres, over the following Iraqi cities and towns: Nasiriyah, Samawah, Amarah, Qurnah, Shinafiyah, Diwaniyah South, Artawi, Busayyah, Salman, Shatrah, Jalibah, Rumaythah, Lasaf, Taqtaqana, Chabaish, Kut, Qal'at Saqr, Rahhaliyah, Shu'aybah, Hamzah, Ali al-Sharqi, Rifa'i, Hayy and Qal'at Salih.

3. On 22 occasions United States TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft flying at speeds of 600 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 20,000 metres violated the Republic of Iraq's airspace in the southern region before leaving in the direction of Kuwait.

UNITED
NATIONS

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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1997/333
23 April 1997
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 22 APRIL 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF KUWAIT TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I should like to inform you that, at precisely 1420 hours on Saturday, 12 April 1997, while a Kuwaiti Coast Guard patrol was in the process of escorting a civilian cruiser belonging to the Kuwaiti Ministry of Communications at the end of Khawr Abdullah near the Kuwaiti island of Warbah, an Iraqi patrol was sighted to the right of buoy 21, as was another Iraqi launch on the coast of the Kuwaiti island of Bubiyan, whereupon the Iraqi launch fired a medium weapon at the Kuwaiti Coast Guard patrol and the Kuwaiti civilian cruiser. As well as violating the sanctity of Kuwaiti boundaries and territorial waters, such provocative acts by the Iraqi regime threaten the region's security and highlight Iraq's lack of peaceful intentions towards its neighbours.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mohammad A. ABULHASAN
Permanent Representative

97-10913 (E) 230497 230497 240497

UNITED NATIONS

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General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/52/125
S/1997/334
25 April 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-second session
Items 114 (b) and (c) of
the preliminary list*
HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS: HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS, INCLUDING ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES FOR IMPROVING THE EFFECTIVE ENJOYMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS; HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATIONS AND REPORTS OF SPECIAL RAPPORTEURS AND REPRESENTATIVES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-second year

Letter dated 23 April 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Cambodia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith a facsimile letter dated 22 April 1997 from His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Ranariddh, First Prime Minister of the Royal Government of Cambodia, addressed to you, regarding the Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations in Cambodia (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under items 114 (b) and (c) of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) SISOWATH Sirirath
Ambassador Extraordinary
and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative

* A/52/50.

97-11169 (E) 250497 260497

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ANNEX

Letter dated 22 April 1997 from the First Prime Minister of Cambodia addressed to the Secretary-General

The successful elections held under the sponsorship of the United Nations in 1993 have enabled Cambodia to set the foundations for democracy, development and peace. The most fundamental rights and freedoms that the Cambodian people are able to enjoy today are the most concrete and fruitful outcomes of the noble interventions of the United Nations in Cambodia. The people of Cambodia owe their most profound gratitude to the eminent nations and Members of the United Nations.

Despite the progress made by the Royal Government of Cambodia to guarantee full protection for the rights and freedoms of the people, democracy in Cambodia is young and still remains fragile. The recent incident in which a great number of innocent and peaceful demonstrators were killed and wounded is a clear sign that democracy in Cambodia is at great risk of a setback. Violence, violations of human rights and political intimidation are increasing and beginning to control the lives of the people of Cambodia.

Furthermore, as Cambodia is moving closer to the communal and legislative elections, it is imperative that the United Nations continue to maintain the presence of its Special Representative in Cambodia. As the mandate of Mr. Benny Widyono is soon ending, I wish respectfully to request you to present to the Royal Government a potential candidate who could be accepted to fill this most important and distinguished position. I very much welcome the nomination by the United Nations of a new Special Representative in Cambodia upon the expiration of Mr. Widyono's term of office.

A letter dated 7 April 1997 was sent to you and signed by Samdech Hun Sen, the Second Prime Minister, to support the continuation of Mr. Widyono in his current position in Cambodia after the expiration of his term of office. This request was made without my knowledge.

The upcoming elections in Cambodia can be free and fair only if one of the following interventions are made to monitor the full electoral process:

(a) The presence of United Nations observers;

(b) The presence of international observers under the coordination of the United Nations. The Royal Government will forward its official request to these two sources in the near future.

(Signed) NORODOM RANARIDDH

UNITED
NATIONS

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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1997/335
25 April 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 25 APRIL 1997 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to convey to you the attached letter, dated 25 April 1997, which I have received from the Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations (see annex). Attached to the letter is the second bi-weekly report on the multinational protection force for Albania requested by the Security Council in its resolution 1101 (1997) of 28 March 1997.

I should appreciate your bringing the letter and its annex to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(Signed) Kofi A. ANNAN

Annex

Letter dated 25 April 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to submit the second report on the multinational protection force for Albania (see annex). The report is submitted pursuant to the requirement set out in paragraph 9 of Security Council resolution 1101 (1997) of 28 March 1997, in which the Council requested the Member States participating in the multinational protection force to provide periodic reports, at least every two weeks, through the Secretary-General, to the Council. The first such report was conveyed to you on 10 April (S/1997/296, annex).

I should be grateful if you could have the text of the present letter and the second report circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) F. Paolo FULCI
Ambassador

Appendix

Second report to the Security Council on the operation of the multinational protection force in Albania

I. INTRODUCTION

1. On 28 March 1997, the Security Council adopted resolution 1101 (1997), in paragraph 2 of which it welcomed the offer made by certain Member States to establish a temporary and limited multinational protection force to facilitate the safe and prompt delivery of humanitarian assistance, and to help create a secure environment for the missions of international organizations in Albania, including those providing humanitarian assistance.

2. In paragraph 9 of the resolution the Security Council requested the Member States participating in the multinational protection force to provide periodic reports, at least every two weeks, through the Secretary-General, to the Council. The first report was provided on 9 April 1997 (S/1997/296, annex) specifying, inter alia, the parameters and modalities of the operation on the basis of consultations between Member States participating in the force and the Government of Albania. The present second report summarizes the first week of operations in Albania and describes the progress made towards the objectives laid out in paragraph 2 of resolution 1101 (1997).

II. MULTINATIONAL PROTECTION FORCE

Political guidance

3. The Steering Committee, consisting of the Political Directors of the troop-contributing countries and the Commander of the operation, continues to follow the overall situation on the ground and the full compliance of the activities of the force with the Security Council's mandate. It meets on a weekly basis. Up to now it has held four meetings, on 4, 9, 14 and 23 April 1997.

4. The relevant international organizations participate in the Steering Committee meetings as observers, informing the Committee about their ongoing activities with respect to the Albanian crisis. In particular, the United Nations was represented by the Department of Humanitarian Affairs, while representatives of both the Presidency and the Commission of the European Union (EU) were present. The Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and the Western European Union (WEU) also attended as observers, represented by their respective presidents.

Cooperation with Albanian authorities

5. On the eve of the deployment of the multinational protection force, the Defence Minister of Italy, Beniamino Andreatta, visited Tirana (12 April) and the Prime Minister of Italy, Romano Prodi, visited Vlore and Tirana (13 April). Both visits confirmed the willingness of the Government of Albania to cooperate

with the multinational protection force and with humanitarian agencies for the safe and timely delivery of humanitarian assistance.

6. The Steering Committee, through its Chairman, Ambassador Amedeo de Franchis, and the Commander of the operation, Admiral Guido Venturoni, Chief of the Italian Defence Staff, presented the mission of the force to the Government of Albania in a special meeting of the Steering Committee held at Rome on 14 April. The Government of Albania was represented by its Foreign Minister, Mr. Arjan Starova, who accepted the parameters and modalities of the mission and expressed appreciation to the troop-contributing countries. On that occasion, the Government of Albania informed the Steering Committee that a comprehensive central commission had been established at Tirana, headed by the Secretary of State to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Pavli Zeri, to serve as the interdepartmental point of coordination and contact.

Cooperation with international organizations

7. In compliance with the mandate described in resolution 1101 (1997), the humanitarian assistance programme to be implemented in the secure environment to which the force contributes is being carried out. In particular, the EU/ECHO is already delivering to the port of Durres a first shipment of cereals under secure conditions, while the EU/PHARE programme for Albania is under evaluation in Brussels. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Food Programme (WFP) are starting emergency programmes for Albania.

8. A training programme for police is under consideration. A WEU evaluation mission has been in Albania since 22 April, while EU will decide on its support in the light of the results of that mission.

9. Since the deployment of the force, a further visit to Tirana was paid on 11 April by the Personal Representative on Albania of the OSCE Chairman-in-Office, former Austrian Chancellor, Mr. Franz Vranitzky, who, on the same day, also met in Venice with the Minister of Defence of Italy, Mr. Beniamino Andreatta, the Commander of the Force, Admiral Guido Venturoni and the Chairman of the Steering Committee, Ambassador Amedeo de Franchis. Since 22 April, Mr. Vranitsky's deputy, Ambassador Herbert Grubmayr, has been organizing the OSCE presence in Albania, also in the framework of the security measures agreed with the force.

Force deployment

10. The deployment of the forces started on 15 April, well within the scheduled planning of the operation.

11. The force is scheduled to reach an overall size of 6,000 men, a level that meets the operational requirements for the mission. Eight countries have so far pledged troops: Austria (120), Denmark (60), France (1,000), Greece (800), Italy (2,500)*, Romania (400), Spain (450) and Turkey (800).

12. Taking into account the prevailing conditions throughout the country and the fact that the force acts under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, the force has been provided with rules of engagement in accordance with

its mandate to ensure the security and freedom of movement of its personnel. These rules include self-defence, limited use of force, identification and warning before using force, proportionality in the use of force, need to prevent collateral damage, prohibition of retaliation and the right to position defence.

13. An agreement on the status of the force between the Government of Albania and the Governments of the countries contributing troops to the force was signed at Rome on 21 April. The provisions of the agreement apply to the personnel, property and assets of national elements and units of those nations participating in the operation when acting in connection with the operation or with the provision of relief to the civilian population.

Summary of operations

14. The first phase of the operation focuses on acquiring control over a limited number of key points of entry into the country in order to permit the prompt transportation and stockpiling of aid. The force deployment will be as follows: in the North, the Spanish troops; the French and Danish in Durres; Austrians, Greeks, Italians and Turks in the central area; and in the South, Italians, Greeks and Romanians.

15. On 15 April, the first French, Italian and Spanish contingents landed at the port of Durres and Tirana airport. At the same time as the deployment of the force, the delivery of humanitarian aid started. On 15 April, a first WFP shipment, consisting of 400 tons of food donated by the Government of Italy, reached the port of Durres on a Greek vessel. Further deliveries are currently on their way. On 16 April, Greek and Turkish contingents started to land. On 17 April, the personal representative on Albania of the OSCE Chairman-in-Office, Mr. Franz Vranitzky, met the Commander of the Force, General Luciano Forlani, in order to start close cooperation within the country. On 21 April, Greek and Italian forces moved into the port city of Vlore. As at 23 April 4,649 units of the force were reported to be in Albania (2,194 Italians, 1,050 French, 359 Spanish, 628 Greeks and 418 Turks). By 23 April, the Force Command was operational in Tirana.

III. CONCLUSIONS

16. Since the start of the operation the overall situation has been relatively quiet. The beginning of deployment of the force affected the overall security situation in Albania in a positive manner. Tensions have decreased and fewer clashes are being recorded. The local police are slowly regaining control, particularly in the central area (Durres and Tirana); some schools have reopened after several weeks of interruption; and commercial activities are resuming. However, some local incidents have been reported, with casualties among civilians. The general attitude of the population towards the force is positive. No signs of hostility have been noted.